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94 U. S. 113, 24 L. ed. 77, the fact that the service is rendered to the public subjects it to public regulation and control in the interest of the public and for the benefit of any member thereof which may be especially affected or directly interested. This principle, therefore, is fully applicable to corporations providing municipal public utility services, and the case of *Pond v. New Rochelle Water Co.*, 183 N. Y. 330, 76 N. E. 211, 1 L. R. A. (U. S.) 961, decided in 1906, furnishes an important decision in this connection, for it applies this principle to the matter of providing water service for the purpose of determining the rights of the individual inhabitants, who are or desire to become customers of such service, to secure the same by an action in their own name in accordance with this principle which is best stated in the early case, that has long since become a leading one, of *Lawrence v. Fox*, 20 N. Y. 268."

The reader will notice that his own confusion in this paragraph seems to have been shared by the author, with the result of the bad grammar in the phrase "their own name", near the end of the paragraph. In fact we find a rather frequent confusion of plurals and singulars throughout the book, as for instance, in the last sentence of Section 30, in Section 32, in the last sentence of Section 37, in the last sentence of Section 232, and in the third sentence of Section 350.

There is, however, useful material in Mr. Pond's book, and it is interesting to have the law of public utilities presented with special reference to the rights and powers of the municipality. In fact, any book on public utilities which presents new material, or a new point of view, cannot help being useful and interesting to the legal profession, for comparatively little has, as yet, been written in this field, but it is to be regretted that Mr. Pond did not do a more careful, thorough and analytical piece of work, when he had so free a field before him.

*Charles K. Burdick.*

**THE INDIVIDUAL DELINQUENT. A TEXT-BOOK OF DIAGNOSIS AND PROGNOSIS BY ALL CONCERNED IN UNDERSTANDING OFFENDERS.** By WILLIAM HEALY, A.B., M.D. Boston: LITTLE BROWN & COMPANY. 1915. pp. xxv, 830.

The doctor is to be congratulated upon having performed a useful and arduous task. His book is based on the study of a thousand cases undertaken in connection with his work in the Juvenile Court in Chicago, and conducted with unusual ability according to the most modern methods.

In the introduction he states that his object was the search for any "driving forces" to crime and "the ascertainment of the methods and the facts which will help towards the making of practical diagnoses and prognoses," and that his main conclusion is "that every case will always need study by itself. We have come to see that neither we nor other investigators can make such a contribution to the principles of our science as shall ever do away with the necessity for (a) careful personal study of each offender, and (b) testing the value of measures carried out, always by the criteria of future results."

Incidentally he has disposed, finally I trust, of the statement that crime is a disease, that there is a criminal type marked by either physical or psychological stigmata, and that there is, or can be, a

moral imbecile, so-called. He finds that the fact, as ascertained, overwhelmed the theories.

"It was clearly evident that classification by crimes leads only in special instances to knowledge of the criminal; that statistics of seasons, and races, and head-measurements, and alcoholism, and so on, mean almost nothing for the fundamental understanding of the individual case; that epileptic and atavistic theories could not be substantiated by case histories; that refinements of psycho-physical measurements sometimes used on criminals need a tremendous amount of overhauling before they can be regarded as valid for conclusions; that the elders, who spoke so glibly of the criminal as a born type, had not the means of investigating whether he was not rather a born defective, and a criminal through accident of environment."

Book 1 is devoted to general data, including an explanation of the methods of study adopted by the author, both medical and psychological, a clear description of the office equipment and the working methods, and statistics. These last are particularly valuable.

He finds, for instance, that leaving out all cases with appearance of doubt, 67-4/10% of the offenders should be regarded without question as mentally normal and only 10% were feeble-minded.

In the table of statistics almost every factor that could possibly have a bearing upon delinquents is considered separately, and from them a general conclusion is to be drawn that we cannot say that any one particular thing is the cause of crime. This conclusion is borne out in Book 2, which is devoted to a study of causes, types and causative factors, and includes everything from heredity to lack of knowledge of arithmetic and the excessive use of tea and coffee. Probably the most useful result of Dr. Healy's work is to show the futility of any attempt to classify or consider criminals different from the rest of mankind and the uselessness of further study along these lines. It is interesting to see that his researches bring out the opinions held by most judges of our criminal courts, namely, that criminals are not essentially different from the rest of mankind, that they are not the victims of a social system and that they should not be treated as medical cases.

In Case #49 he gives the views of an expert professional criminal who so far has carried on his profession with impunity and is to my mind, and I think to the author's himself, the whole matter in a nutshell. He says: "The only way to stop us is to find out who and what we are and what we are good for. Then you have got to make punishment severe enough or opportunities good enough for us. You don't do either of these now. Either you've got to make it so hard for me that I would rather work at laborer's wages than take a chance or else you've got to give me a decent job."

On the whole the book is to be strongly commended to persons interested in criminology and in prison reform. If read attentively it will tend to reduce the number of ill advised experiments in the latter direction.

*J. E. Corrigan.*